

Application Serial No. 10/651,136
Response dated March 21, 2007
Reply to Official Action dated October 23, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A process for inhibiting development of allergic disease, the process comprising exposing a neonatal or immature mammal or bird to irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide derived from bacterial endotoxin.
2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is detoxified by exposure of the endotoxin to irradiation at a level of from about 25 to about 150 kGy.
3. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the irradiation changes the structure of the endotoxin while maintaining its positive immune effect in the resulting irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.
4. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is adapted to stimulate the Th 1 arm of the immune system.
5. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein an infant mammal is exposed.
6. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 5, wherein the exposure is achieved by administering a topical composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide to the infant mammal.
7. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 6, wherein the topical composition further comprises a powder.
8. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 7, wherein the powder comprises talcum powder, corn starch, beet starch, rice flour, oatmeal, or a mixture thereof.
9. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 6, wherein the topical composition is in the form of a topical cream.

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10. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the exposure is achieved by administering an aerosol spray composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.
11. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 5, wherein the exposure is achieved by contacting the infant mammal with a wipe impregnated with a composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.
12. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 5, wherein the exposure is achieved by contacting the infant mammal with a diaper impregnated with a composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.
13. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein a human of 1 month to 2 years of age is exposed.
14. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, wherein a primate of 2 weeks to 12 months of age is exposed.
15. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, wherein a dog or cat of 1 week to 12 months of age is exposed.
16. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 6, wherein the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is delivered in a concentration from 0.01 ug/g to 100 ug/g of topical composition.
17. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein exposure to the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is achieved shortly after birth and during the maturing life cycle of the mammal or bird.
18. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein exposure to the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is achieved on a daily basis during growth of the mammal or bird.
19. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein exposure to the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is achieved on a weekly basis during growth of the mammal or bird.

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20. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, wherein the mammal or bird is a farm animal.

21. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 20, wherein the farm animal is a cow, pig, goat, horse, chicken or turkey of 2 days to 12 months of age.

22. (New) A process for inhibiting development of allergic disease, the process comprising exposing a neonatal or immature mammal or bird to irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide derived from *E. coli* bacteria endotoxin.

23. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein the exposure is achieved by administering an aerosol spray composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.

24. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein a human of 1 month to 2 years of age is exposed.